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HAPPY HOLIDAYS



The PRESIDENTS PEN *by Howard Gould, W8HVF*

'Tis the season to be jolly, and we want to wish each and every member a warm and very special Christmas with their families and friends. We send out a very special warm greeting to those members and families who may be sick or having rough times, in the hopes that all their problems and woes will diminish over these coming holidays. We forget at times in our anxiety to receive new rigs and other goodies that there are many who are not as fortunate as ourselves who may be going through some very rough times this time of year, and our thoughts should turn to them and offer a helping hand if we can.

GARS has become quite a large club over the past months in growth as well as available talent. We are a club of many faces for sure and with the addition of all these new faces comes the help we need to keep this club together. If we can find a niche for everyone to contribute just a fraction of their time and energy to our cause, we can do wonders in our plans to build up our communications system, outdoor and indoor events, and fulfilling our obligation to community and amateur radio.

We must be supportive of all the new members to our club and offer them a helping hand whenever we have the chance to do so. They are looking for answers to a lot of questions about

amateur radio which to a lot of us old timers is old hat stuff, but remember that these newcomers have very little background in anything pertaining to radio or operating skills and we must get them off on the right foot so they can become good operators. With the advent of the no-code

(Prez, continued on P.4)



Dean Matthews, AD4OD GARS

HAM OF THE MONTH

by J. Pickoff Cummins, AD4S

Our Ham of the Month for this month is Dean Matthews, AD4OD of Suwanee, who is well known to both new and old GARS members. Dean has been very active in GARS activities for the last few years.

Interestingly enough, Dean was born in a place that does not exist having been born in the base hospital at the Great Lakes Naval Training Center near Chicago. Dean's father was in the U.S. Marine Corps and happened to be stationed at Great Lakes when Dean arrived.

As a result of his father's occupation, Dean lived in many interesting places including California, Beirut Lebanon, Newport R.I., Jacksonville, N.C., and graduated of Towns County High School in Hiawassee, Georgia.

Dean laughed when we were doing this interview and said he was a good example of a "Jack of Many Trades" and a "Master of None". The writer's experience with Dean is that he is the master of everything he does. He is skilled in many disciplines.

He is a "Mr. Goodwrench" having graduated from a two year program in automotive mechanics, followed by two

(HAM, continued on next page)

GARS News

GARS News is the official monthly organ of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the amateur radio art.

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If possible, submit News items in ASCII format by posting a private message to Dean Matthews on the GARS conference of the Scientific Atlanta BBS (903-5487), then use the Save Attached save command, which will prompt you to upload your ASCII file. Art can be accepted in TIFF or PCX format on IBM compatible disk.

Contact the Editor for odd format compatibility, or other means of transfer. Deadline for article submissions is the first Thursday of each month.

The GARS address is:

**GWINNETT AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 88
LILBURN, GA 30226**

GARS News EDITOR
Dean Matthews, AD4OD
Editors Desk: 962-8941
Fax: 339-1394

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(HAM, continued from P.1)

years of engine rebuilding at a metro area Chevy dealership. He then made a career change, and became the foreman and lead cabinet & trim carpenter for a custom home builder. Another career change occurred when Dean went in partnership with his brother in a concrete pumping business.

After this business sold, Dean took a national service job with the largest concrete pump manufacturer of its day, Thomsen Equipment. He later got into sales and eventually was promoted to Eastern Area Sales and Service Manager for the U.S. and Canada for Putzmeister, the German owned company that bought out Thomsen.

Not liking the sales part of his job, but unable to shed himself of it, Dean left the company to manage a resort lounge in Myrtle Beach S.C. He later returned to Atlanta and managed a local concrete pumping company until the opportunity presented itself to return to work for Putzmeister in his old capacity... less the sales part. Putzmeister are the guys with the humongous concrete pumps.. normally blue white with up to 180 foot articulating booms.

Dean has been interested in radio since he was a teenager having built a Lafayette short wave receiver (that worked), and wanted to be a ham but the Morse code got in the way.

In 1990, Dean saw an ad for the Lawrenceville Hamfest and decided to go see what was going on in ham radio. While he was there he bought \$2,000 worth of ham gear, a complete station, as motivation to get his ticket. At this point Dean had never known a ham.

Dean put the microphone in the drawer and started listening to the H.F. bands. He started copying code anyway he could get it; ARRL, Tapes, even flash cards.

When Dean went to take the 5 wpm code test, the VE suggested he try the 13 wpm test which he passed along with the Novice written. While waiting for his Novice ticket to arrive in the mail, Dean went back several more times and took all of the written elements to qualify for the Advanced Class license. Dean was traveling on business quite a bit at

(HAM, continued on P.3)

GARS GROWS GREATLY BY GOLLY!

Nineteen new members were voted in at the October meeting, a new club record for one months increase!

Welcome these Hams to GARS:

Paul Brisendine, K4HCM {T+}
from Lawrenceville, GA

Brenda Cheek, KE4RVW {T}
from Hoschton, GA

Paul Cheek, KE4IKH {G}
from Hoschton, GA

Tom Crowell, KE4SLP {T}
from Duluth, GA

Gwen Darby, KE4PWU {T}
from Braselton, GA

Rick Darby, KE4NIX {G}
from Braselton, GA

Paul Gericke, KR4RG {A}
from Lawrenceville, GA

Mike Guler, KF4EZ {E}
from Lilburn, GA

Jesse Knight, WB4PPW {E}
from Snellville, GA

Kimberley Romero, KE4GGQ {T}
from Norcross, GA

Manny Romero, KD4LXR {T}
from Norcross, GA

Billy Zeyher, AB4RH {E}
from Lawrenceville, GA

New Associate Members, Awaiting Calls or Studying:

Ham Radio Outlet from Norcross, GA
Kelly Darby, from Braselton, GA
Robert Murray from Duluth, GA
Krista Rice from Hoschton, GA
Angie Romero from Norcross, GA
Dan Saurino from Hoschton, GA
Penelope Saurino from Hoschton, GA

Welcome these new members at the next club meeting or on the air! -ED ♦

GARS November Foxhunt

by Joe Biddle, AD4PZ

Sunday, November the thirteenth was sunny and warm, perfect for seeking out and capturing a little RF critter. The Fox today was David KA4KKF, he was running a mere 2.5 watts on 146.55 MHz. This fox didn't cry out a continuous wale but rather whimpered a sickly bellow every now and then as to announce to the RF world of his impending doom. But capturing the fox today was to celebrate, both Fox and hunter had fun as well as perfecting their Direction Finding skills.

If you've read any articles on the art of Direction Finding (DF'ing), then you probably have read on the various methods and techniques used for making the fox sly, including sly-ing the fox. The winning team today was WD4JEM and K2HJ.

The winning equipment used his day to claim victory was a Doppler Antenna Array with a Global Position tracking unit consisting of: Four 1/4 wave mag mount antennas precisely positioned atop a four door sedan, a 2 meter receiver, and a GPS Global Positioning System, Garmin 45 with an external passive antenna.

The signals from the four antennas are fed into a control box that compares and interprets the signals, sending that information to a dash mounted circular LED direction indicator. The GPS was used to track their position in reference to the starting point and signal received. The fox being quite cunning, stayed in the congested area of Gwinnett Place Mall, and it being Sunday made mobile traffic maneuvers quite challenging as well. At one point Eddie said he had two readings as though the fox split into different directions. This however, was due to getting some "bounced" signals from buildings and the like. The GPS racked the moving vehicle making it easier for them not to backtrack.

Eddie was getting ready to show me their route taken. At this time I was

expecting to see a series of sequential zigzags each one honing a sharper trace to the hidden transmitter. But the route that he took actually resembled a sideways letter 'j', with a point to point distance of only .6 miles. That was impressive considering that about the only other way to have gotten there in less time was a direct line (impossible taking into account the traffic, buildings etc.). If there had been no traffic, Eddie



said he probably could have gotten this fox in three readings. Better sharpen your hiding skills, David. hi hi.

I was just a spectator in this hunt but I wished I could have been the co-pilot to have gotten a better understanding of this winning setup. Congratulations to all of the participants. I have a feeling another hunt will be organized very close in the future including awards. Listen to the repeater and watch your news letter for details.

73 Joe, AD4PZ ♦

(HAM, continued from P.2)

this time so he had plenty of time to study. Finally his novice ticket came and he was able to get on the air signing KC4RIS/AA. His Advanced ticket finally came and his call became KN4MK.

When the next Gainesville Hamfest came around, Dean decided to go. He did not know how to find the location and pulled over a gentleman with a ham tag to ask him where it was. Dean did know about VHF/UHF repeaters and learned from this contact that there were normally "Talk in Frequencies" for most hamfests. So Dean bought an HT at Gainesville so he could find some more hamfests... and began to meet local hams over the GARS repeater.

Dean's first rig (that he bought at Lawrenceville) was a Yaesu 757GXII. His antenna was 40 meter commercial dipole. His first on-the-air contact with was with the WINOS (Wireless Institute of New Orleans). This is an interesting group that hangs out on 40 meter phone during the late evening and early morning hours. They are quite outspoken but all in all pretty good hams.

Dean was told that his audio sucked... but one of the WINOS, KB5PX, took pity on him and convinced the group to help Dean fix his audio problem. After selecting the best candidate microphone from those Dean had on hand, they worked with Dean selecting capacitors and resistors to install to clean up his audio until 4:00AM that first night.

Dean's persistence eventually landed him a membership in this august group he received the WINO rookie of the year award that year. The WINOS became on-the-air Elmers for Dean and helped him build a 40 meter-phased array. The work on this antenna

NEW CALLSIGNS

Paul Durant, now KS4GY was KE4PZE
Toshi, now AD4ZZ was KE4GXT
Dan Soreno got his first, KE4PZE
Congratulations to all!

Contact GARS

OFFICERS 1994-1995

President:		
W4NVF	Howard Gould	921-8362
Vice President:		
KD4QFD	Larry Osborne	972-1185
Secretary:		
KE4GYM	Ike Chapman	339-8123
Treasurer:		
WA4QYY	Charles Evans	448-0930
Activities Mgr:		
KA4KKF	David Adcock	963-5767
News Editor:		
AD4OD	Dean Matthews	962-8941
License Trustee:		
KO4ZS	Paul Bennett	206-0215

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

W4WKP	Johnny Fearon	466-4038
KD4EHG	Buddy Dowdell	476-1616
KD4HMC	Sam Roundtree	921-7423
W4NZJ	Jud Whatley	972-1940

COMMITTEES

REPEATER:

W4NVF	Howard Gould	921-8362
Control Operators:		
KD4QFD	Larry Osborne	972-1185
KE4EMA	Jack Herndon	995-0438
AD4PZ	Joe Biddle	963-4316
KE4GYM	Ike Chapman	339-9231
KD4KCR	Duane Hansen	962-6086
W4NVF	Howie Gould	921-8362
KA4EMV	Bob DeVeau	923-3963
K4HRB	Ron Davidson	466-4932

Membership:

KE4EMA	Jack Herndon	995-0438
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Publicity:

AD4PZ	Joe Biddle	963-4316
W4WKP	Johnny Fearon	466-4038

Rookie Radio:

KE4JKM	Cheryl McClure	995-5159
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Field Day:

KE4DYY	Vincent Hrabosky	246-9630
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Ham Classes:

KA9UIE	Steve Idler	513-0428
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HF/VHF/UHF Awards Manager:

KE4GGP	Don Ennest	923-4851
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DXCC Awards Checker:

AF4Y	Frank Deak	978-6546
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JOIN GARS

Annual Membership dues are:

- \$25.00 for Individual Memberships
- \$35.00 for Family Membership

Dues pro-rated throughout, the year call Jack Herndon, KE4EMA at 995-0438 for more information about joining GARS.

(HAM, continued from P.3)

was done between midnight and 3 am in the driveway getting instructions over the air...step by step.

They trained Dean to use a noise bridge to tune antennas with. (The writer can attest to the effectiveness of Dean's antennas having used them in the 1993 Sweepstakes which netted a "Worked All Zones" pin and coffee cup.) Dean has had a half a dozen rigs since then but is back to the FT-757 that he started with. He also has Heath HL2200 HF amplifier, a KAM, a Time-wave DSP 9 and a little bit of everything that a ham needs.

Dean's primary amateur radio interest is rag chewing, small techy projects Field Day and SweepStakes. He has done mobile H.F., satellite (Russian RS10 and 12), RTTY and AMTOR. He has tested most of the digital modes, and really likes the "ragchewability" of RTTY. He is a dedicated proponent of drilling holes in new automobiles to mount antennas in.

What is Dean looking forward to in the hobby? a tower and rotatable antenna and he may become one of the "damn" DXers.... always looking for a challenge.. like learning German (which he is doing in his spare time).

Other interests, present and past, include playing his trumpet with the Gwinnett Community Band (he once played a concert with Doc Severenson), woodworking, radio console maker par excellence, skydiving, RC airplanes, model rockets, target rifle shooting, and cabinet maker. He also holds a Class 5 commercial driving license with numerous endorsements.

Dean is also a computer aficionado (computer dude), and currently the GARS Newsletter Editor and former Treasurer of the club. He is a Volunteer Examiner (VE) for the GARS VE activities headed up by Howie, W4NVF. You can expect to find Dean at almost every GARS event. (he was on the winning team for the GARS Picnic Fox Hunt).

If you have not met Dean Matthews, look him up at the next meeting and say hello. For his short time as a ham, Dean is a storehouse of amateur radio information. GARS is fortunate to have Dean among it's members. ♦

(Prez, continued from P.1)

license, and open question and answer pools, there has been a flood of new amateurs into the hobby with the majority of them not having any prior experience in electrical/radio principles. Lets help them all we can - the rewards are many.

The last count at the last meeting in membership numbers was 196. We may very well be over the 200 mark by the end of December, and with this amount of membership we will find our ability to keep the meetings interesting and club activities to a maximum strained to their limits. The officers of the club are very much interested in keeping meeting attendance up and activity participation in full swing. We need input from the general membership as to what activities you are interested in and what support system you would like to see in place so you may upgrade.

We will need additional teaching help that can work with Steve, KA9UIE in his upcoming no code class starting in January in whatever capacity you can help.

We will need additional code practice control operators to send the code practice sessions on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. I must stress that this is a genuine plea for help in this most important part of our GARS activities for without the help of control operators sending code, those GARS members and in lots of cases non GARS members, will not be able to upgrade as quick as they might have had we continued this activity. Please contact Steve, AD4LY or Johnny, W4WKP for information on helping with this.

We also need members willing to help Duane, KD4KCR in his efforts to start up another code teaching class in January. His last class was quite successful, and we can see that there is a need for this activity, but as in all of these activities we would like to continue we need support. No one person can carry the load on their own for long without getting burned out.

We must continue our efforts to see that the school children in the county receive exposure to amateur radio. I am most appreciative of the members who

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society

Monthly Meeting Minutes:

November 17, 1994

In attendance: Howard Gould, W4NVF, President; Larry Osborne, KD4QFD, Vice President; Ike Chapman, KE4GYM, Secretary; Charles Osborne, WA4QYY, Treasurer; David Adcock, KA4KKF, Activities Manager.

The meeting was convened at Williams Seafood Restaurant in Duluth at 19:32 local time by President Gould.

All members and visitors were invited to introduce themselves, a total of 53 people signed the meeting log.

Howie announced that a committee had been formed to evaluate and begin work on the tower/trailer donated to the club by Carlton, WA4ZUW. The committee is composed of Larry, KD4QFD; Mary, KE4MLH; Frank, AF4Y; David, KE4REB; and Bill KN4N. The committee will meet for the first time on Tuesday, November 22 at Marty's shop in Suwanee.

The minutes were approved as published in the newsletter.

Joe, AD4PZ, gave a report on current publicity efforts.

Charles, WA4QYY, gave the treasurers report.

Howie announced that Bill, KE4EIH and Paul, KE4GBS have been appointed as GARS property managers.

Jack, KE4EMA, presented new candidates for GARS memberships. There were 19 new members accepted as GARS members without opposition.

The new GARS members are: Paul Bridendine, K4HCM; Brenda Cheek, KE4RVW; Paul Cheek, KE4IKH; Thomas Crowell, KE4SLP; Gwen Darby, KE4PWU; Kelly Darby, Associate Member; Rick Darby, KE4NIX; Paul Gericke, KR4RG; Mike Guler, KF4EZ; Ham Radio Outlet, Associate Member; Jesse Knight, Callsign pending; Ham Radio Outlet, Associate Member; Jesse Knight, Callsign pending; Krista Rice, Callsign pending; Angie Romero, Associate Member; Kimberly Anne Romero, KE4GGQ; Manuel Romero, KD4LXR; Dan Saurino, Callsign pending; Penelope Saurino, Callsign pending; Billy Lee Zeyher, AB4RH; Robert Murray, Callsign pending.

Pat, KC4DOO, Gwinnett County ARES EC, discussed the recent ARES emergency net in response to the hazardous material spill in Lawrenceville. Tom, KE4SLP, a Red Cross Disaster Team Leader also discussed the ARES response to the this situation.

The meeting was then turned over to David, KA4KKF who introduced a program on wire antennas. After the program was concluded and a ten minute break the meeting was resumed with the drawing for the HRO gift certificate. Paul, KR4RG was the winner of the gift certificate.

Howie reminded everyone that nominations for the GARS Ham of the Year needed to be turned in to any member of the executive committee by the end of the meeting.

Larry, KD4QFD discussed possible HF activities for the club during the winter months, including an HF day for no-code Technicians to visit the shacks of other members with higher class licenses for an introduction to HF. Ideas for other HF activities such as a special event station and visits to contest stations were discussed.

Howie discussed the GARS communication system reporting that the new repeater was back on-line. Howie reported on his ongoing discussions with the county concerning the Snellville site. Ike, KE4GYM said the he had had a conversation with Jim, KD4OTB concerning a possible site for a remote receiver in Hall County near Walker Mountain. Howie also reported on some informal discussions with the Atlanta Radio Club about reciprocal use of repeater sites for remote receivers.

The meeting was adjourned at 21:16 local time. ♦

(Prez, continued from P.4)

supported this in the past and I know I can count on you in the future.

We need to stay on top of community activities taking place so we can add the club to them in providing radio demonstrations etc.

We need to continue supporting ARES in their activities to make a better emergency communications network for the county, contact Pat, KC4DOO for information.

It will take many members supporting all of these activities to make it work so please speak up and don't rely on the next person to do it. We, the officers, can only support the efforts of the membership with our leadership to see it through. If we receive the ideas and contact persons, we can normally make it click - so keep up the interest - don't stop.

Jim, KR4XY is still taking orders for GARS apparel, namely jackets and hats. The jackets are going for \$45.00 and the hats for \$14.00. The price includes your name and call letters embroidered on the front. There is also a short sleeve white polo shirt for all weather wearing, with GARS logo, and your name and call sign embroidered in red for \$28.00. There are other apparel items for future use in the works so see Jim if you are interested and make out your check to GARS and give it to Jim with your order.

Williams Seafood Of Savannah

We will be having our meeting at Williams Seafood of Savannah again, as there has been no change in that being our meeting place. The people at Williams are really pulling out all the stops to please us, and I really think it is reasonable - especially when we only get together for a once-a-month meal. I have ordered the "mates dinner" each time, and found that it was plenty for me - and I eat good, believe me.

There has been some negative comments drifting back to me that it is expensive there, but when you look at the difference of only a couple of dollars more compared to Ryan's or Shoneys, and the difference in the meeting accommodations, I don't see that as a valid complaint at all. In fact you can get the "mates dinner" for half the

QUA

1st Tuesday,

Metro Atlanta Telephone Pioneers

Old Hickory House on Chamblee-Dunwoody Rd. in Dunwoody. Dutch dinner is at 6:30PM, followed by meeting. TI-145.41-

1st Wednesday -

HamWatch

Shoney's 11690 Alpharetta Hwy., Roswell (about 2 1/2 miles North of Holcomb Bridge Rd across from North Fulton Hospital) Dinner at 6:30PM. Meeting is at 7:30 PM

1st Thursday

N.E. Georgia Amateur Radio Club

Jefferson Civic Center, off Memorial Dr. toward Winder from Jefferson. Meeting is at 6:30PM. TI-147.225+

1st Thursday -

Atlanta Radio Club

Kitteredge Magnet School, North Druid Hills Rd. and Briarcliff. 6:00PM. Meeting is at 7:30PM TI-146.82-

2nd Wednesday

North Fulton Radio League

Cherokee Cattle Company, 11208 Alpharetta Hwy. Dinner at 6:00PM. Meeting at 7:30PM TI-145.47-

2nd Thursday

Alford Memorial Radio Club

Elks Lodge on Memorial Drive. Dinner at 6:00PM Meeting at 7:30PM. TI-146.76-

2nd Saturday

East Atlanta LAN

Scott Blvd Baptist Church in Decatur. Meeting is at 10:00AM. TI-145.41-

3rd Thursday

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society

Williams Seafood, 3560 Buford Hwy, Just north of Pleasant Hill Rd.. Dinner begins around 6:00PM, and last through the program and meeting which follow. TI-147.075+

(Prez, continued from P.5)

price of the regular dinner, and still have plenty to eat. Even with the 15% tip added it is very reasonable for a one-night-out-a-month deal. You can make it a family thing, let them go home before the meeting starts, and ride home with someone else, since we all live within a few miles of each other.

We plan on having December's meeting on the light side - with mostly social gatherings and as little business as possible. It will be a good time to wind down and enjoy a meal with some of your friends, and have a good rag chew. We will have some exciting things taking place so please come to our year-end meeting. I truly wish we could afford a real nice Christmas dinner for the whole club to enjoy like the Alford Memorial Club, but we didn't have a good-profit Hamfest to boost our available funds. We really have done no heavy fund raising - except for our repeater fund (which by the way is still open for donations if you wish to boost that a little).

So I hope to see all of you at the next meeting at Williams bring a friend or your family and enjoy an evening of fun and fellowship.

Welcome New Members

This is directed to those new members who were accepted in last month, which numbered 19, and the month before which numbered 15. Welcome! I hope your stay with GARS will provide you with fellowship, good friends, fun, a better understanding of this hobby you chose, and above all a sense of well being and pride in yourself and the club. In return, we the officers of GARS, are here to answer any questions you may have at anytime - whether it be in person, on the machine, at our club meetings, or just about anytime you may feel the urge to discuss your ideas and thoughts on the club and the hobby. We make a commitment to you that we will respect your rights to free speech and to give all your ideas and suggestions given to us directly regarding club matters a quick and courteous reply. Thank you for joining GARS.

GARS Trailer With Tower

As you are all probably aware of by now, Carlton, WA4ZUW has donated a

trailer with a damaged 50 foot tower to the club. The trailer is also in need of repair, so a crew of GARS members has got into it with hauling it out of Carlton's back yard, and hauling it out to Marty, KE4MLH's place of business where it now sits. This committee got together and had a meeting, and from what I hear they are all putting their heads together to see if the club can come out of this with very little financial outlay. There is a lot of donated time and possible materials at no cost to the club. We are still watching this with hopeful eyes as the committee gives us more detailed reports on the progress

GARS NEWSLETTER

I think I can safely say that this newsletter is by far one of the best around the area. As I look back and reflect over old copies, I am amazed at how far we have come in delivering a good, readable newsletter to the membership. We will be faced with a postage increase the first of the year which will bring our cost up, but it is well worth it.

One of these days we will be eligible for bulk mailing, but in the meantime Dean, AD4OD our Editor has been busy trying different things to offset the cost. One of the things is advertising from commercial accounts which has been a slow uphill battle but he is doing it with the help of Jim, KR4XY and Joe, AD4PZ. Dean does not have a large staff of people, and if you can just get a handle on the amount of work it takes to put out this newsletter you will quickly come to the conclusion that this is one heck of a job. Dean has help from Jack, KE4EMA and Joe, AD4PZ in putting the mailing out, and getting the paper and printing free.

This is quite an accomplishment on the part of these individuals who I think are exceptional people, and certainly must be devoted to their task because it is never late. So from myself and the membership, thanks guys - you really shine.

GARS Net Sets New Record

Ike, KE4GYM has his work cut out for him because he no longer is top net control for the most amount of check-ins. There was a sleeper who came in to win namely John, KE4KPV who broke all records on Tuesday November 22nd

BITS & PIECES

Johnny Fearon, W4WKP has a Commodore 64 that he is willing to loan to someone who could use it to upgrade. If interested, contact him before the 15th of December at 466-4038.

Another No-Code Technician class will start January 25 and run for six weeks at Central Gwinnett High School. Cost will be \$15.00 in advance payable to the high school. Contact Bill Sloan at 963-8041 for more information.

The next GARS CW class will begin in February. Details will be announced here when they are set.

with what I believe was 49 check-ins. My figure may be off because I lost my log but I do believe that this is a record net. There is plenty of room for additional net controls on the Tuesday night net starting at 01:00Z or (8:00PM local). You can find out what's happening with the club, and if you have something to sell, swap, or say - this is the place to be on Tuesday evening. So come on - volunteer - and be one of those famous GARS net control stations.

No Code Practice Until After Holidays *

Because of lack of net controls the decision was made to suspend code practice sessions until after the holidays. This is not new folks, we have been asking for volunteers for this worth-while program for some time now. Once a week for those folks handling this is just too much, and especially since they are handicapped to boot it was just too much to ask of them and they needed a rest for the holidays.

They will be back both Steve, AD4LY and Johnny, W4WKP - but folks, if we don't get some help with this, it's going to sink fast. It does not take much, even a tape recorder can be used. It's nice to have a computer run program, but copies of these Super Morse programs they use can be put on tape for playback - you just got to hit the play button and adjust the volume going into your rig then hit the pause button every so often so the repeater don't time out. So how about it GARS? can we keep this program running?

* Note: (Since this was written, two more GARS members volunteered to help through the holidays.. so tune in on CW nights for practice - ED)

It's time for me to get off the soap-box and slow down for a breather, I never thought I would be so involved with a club that I would sit for two hours punching out words, actually more than that when I count the days I spend on it. Anyhow, I enjoy it. Nothing would please me more than to know that this newsletter is read from front to back by everyone on the mailing list, and that we are making it informative

and interesting. But you know we need more input, Guys and Gals. What makes you tick? Do you have any interesting comments about the hobby? What do you enjoy best about amateur radio? How about telling us with a short article or more - we would love to hear from you! You can tell us what you like and dislike about the newsletter. It would be interesting to read the different opinions that are out there. So how about it? Get it in by the first Thursday of the month!

Thanks, Howie, W4NVF

A Not-Very-Funny Production ♦

10/95

> 12 STORE BUYING POWER! <



ALINCO

DJ - 580T

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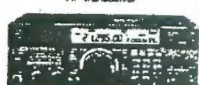
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ROOKIE RADIO NOTES

by Cheryl McClure, KE4JKM

It's December already? It has been loads of fun since Rookie Radio was born in an executive meeting at Howie's (W4NVF) home early this year.

Thank you very much to everyone who gave their time and talent to teach us rookies the finer points of amateur radio. We've had CW class, antenna classes, introduction to Packet Radio, and the famous HowieLab where we built a signal tracer from a kit.

Next year is shaping up to be just as busy. In the works are a direction finding antenna building class, a seminar on Quad antennas, a No-Code Tech Class and another CW class. Howie is even willing to consider HowieLab II. Maybe we can get him to teach us the art of cutting PL-259 connectors on coax.

That is something that generally scares people off until they've actually done it once or twice. Then it's a breeze. It's much better to buy good quality coax and cut it to fit your particular application than it is to buy some inferior ready made coax that is 20 feet too long. Anyone interested? We could include a few tips on soldering too.

The date and time for the CW class has not been finalized yet. Stay tuned for details. The No-code Tech class will be beginning January 25 at Central Gwinnett High School. This will be a Wednesday night class for 6 weeks from 7-9 PM. This is a great chance to get a family member or friend ready for THE TEST. How about paying their way into the class for a holiday gift?

We have had a request for another dipole antenna class. We'll keep an eye on the weather. This is a class that really must be done outside. If the temperatures stays mild enough we may try have another class before spring.

Also, don't forget that the club has an old Tempo HF rig that is in fine working condition to loan. All you have

to do is ask. I know of at least one other HF rig that is available for loan. If you are interested in HF but don't have the rig yet, borrow one! There is a dipole antenna that goes with the radio. When you hear what fun you're missing you'll find all the motivation you need to study that code!

Don't forget our slow code ragchew Wednesday nights at 8:45PM on 10 meters (28.330). Try it once and you'll agree it's fine as frog fuzz. (Join us sometime and you might understand that last statement.)

Best wishes for a happy holiday season. Rest, relax and get ready to participate in Rookie Radio 1995! ♦

WORK GARS

REPEATER

GARS 2-Meter
FM repeater 147.075 MHz +600

TELEPHONE BBS

GARS Conference in
Sci-Atl phone BBS 903-5487

6-METER BEACON

WA4IOB 6 Meter Beacon at 50.075 MHz

PACKET

WD4JXR-6 / SNELLV Packet
Node/Digipeater 145.03 MHz

SWAP, WANTED and SELL NET

Tuesdays at 8:00PM on the
GARS Repeater. 147.075 MHz

MORSE CODE PRACTICE SESSION

An interactive Morse Code practice session immediately follows the 8:00P.M. Tuesday night net on the GARS repeater, and on Thursdays at 9:00P.M..

HAM RADIO 95 IS COMING

by
Larry Osborne, KD4QFD

DAYTON SOUTH ?????????? MAYBE!

This could be the blast of the South - the birthplace of a mega hamfest to equal or exceed Dayton. Don't scoff - think of all the HAMS in 4 land.

Scheduled for April 7, 8, & 9, 1995, at the North Atlanta Trade Center near Exit 38 and I-85 N, the Hamfest will benefit the Scottish Rite Children's Hospital. It is being sponsored by Ham Radio Foundation, Inc., in conjunction with the South Eastern DX Club.

In fact, SEDX is scheduled to do their regular annual festivities. Co-sponsors include GARS, the North Fulton Amateur Radio League, the Quarter Century Wireless Assoc. #49, Middle Ga. Radio Assoc., Big Shanty Repeater Group, Southeastern Amateur TV Network, Southeastern Antique Radio Society, Conyers Radio Club, and MATPARC.

Plans so far (which are growing weekly) include 100 commercial booths, 400+ flea market tables, forums, VE tests and tailgating ON SITE.

We will be working security and hospitality (no grunt work). More details will be supplied later as things develop.

In the meantime, Ike (the secretary) has admission tickets available at the discount price of \$7.00 ♦

GARS W5YI-VEC TEST SESSION

4th Friday at St. John Neumann Church at 801 Tom Smith Rd, off Five Forks Trickle Road, Lilburn. Contact Howie Gould, W4NVF at 921-8362. Walk-In Exams - Headphones!

GARS NET NOTES

by Ike Chapman, KE4GYM

The GARS Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net meets each Tuesday at 2000 hours local time on the GARS 2-meter repeater. All amateurs licensed for 2 meters are invited to check into the net regardless of whether or not they are club members. All GARS members are encouraged to check-in and participate in our weekly net. The GARS weekly set records for check-ins on consecutive weeks in November.

On November 15, with Ike as NCS there were 42 check-ins beating the old record of 40. The following week on November 22, John, KE4KPV served as net control for the first time and set a new record for check-ins with 43!

The weekly net continues to grow and we are getting check-ins from all over metro Atlanta and from other areas such as Macon and North Georgia.

I encourage everyone to check-in each week and support all of those that volunteer to act as Net Control. It really makes you feel good to ask for check-ins and be totally inundated.

I also encourage you to take a hand at serving as net control for the net. It would be nice to have a number of people that could rotate the net and to have people ready to take the net in case of scheduling conflicts or emergencies.

If you're interested in serving as net control please let me know and I'll get you a copy of the preamble and schedule a date for you. The nets for the past six weeks had check-ins as follows:

10/25/94:	34 with Ike, KE4GYM	as NCS
11/01/94:	24 with Jenny, KE4QNE	as NCS
11/08/94:	29 with Ike, KE4GYM	as NCS
11/15/94:	42 with Ike, KE4GYM	as NCS
11/22/94:	43 with John, KE4KPV	as NCS
11/29/94:	30 with Ike, KE4GYM	as NCS

Hope to see you on the net.

73, Ike, KE4GYM



GARS TRAVELERS CAN EARN \$\$\$\$ FOR THE CLUB

Uniglobe Bridges Travel and the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society introduce Uniglobes' "Traveling for Dollars Program".

Bob (N4XAV) and Julie (N4XAR) created "Traveling for Dollars" after reading the article promoting corporate advertisers. "Traveling for Dollars" offers an additional method of raising funds for the club.

Here's how it works. Julie and Bob will contribute ten percent (10%) of the agencies gross commissions, earned on qualifying purchases made by GARS members from Uniglobe Bridges Travel. Contributions will be made quarterly. A statement will be furnished to GARS officers at that time.

Qualifying purchases include any cruise or vacation package offered by Uniglobe Travel. Additionally, airline tickets of regular business travelers averaging 3 flights per month OR ANY MEMBER whose ticket exceeds \$300.00 qualify for the program. Leisure travelers contact any of our vacation specialists, identify yourself as a GARS member, and give your call sign. Business travelers contact Bob Bridges to register for the program!

Reach Bridges Travel at: 813-0051

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- Free Flight Insurance
- Management Reports
- Currency Exchange
- Travelers' Checks
- Visa and Passports



HAVE TOWER -- WILL TRAVEL.

by
Larry Osborne, KD4QFD

How many clubs do you know that have a tower on a trailer? Well, thanks to Carlton McPherson, WA4ZUW, GARS is one of those fortunate clubs.

Carlton had this jewel sitting in his backyard, and thought we could put it to good use- and boy, can we! Soon, GARS will pull up to our scheduled demonstration with the creme de la creme. No more makeshift antennas attached to rails. No more need to operate with coax strung to a truck. Instead, a beauty of a tower with a beam antenna on top.

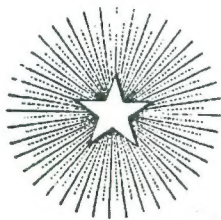
Right now it is sitting at KE4MLH's place of business. It is a home made trailer with a home built crank up tower. As far as the height of the tower, we are not sure. The tower needs some "beautification" (repairs), so once we get it apart and see what can be done, we'll have a better idea.

Howie asked me to try to co-ordinate the project. So far, the following folks have offered to lend their time and talents to the project: KE4MLH, KN4N, KE4REB, and AF4Y. We invite you to join us. There will be plenty of chores to spread around! We would like this to be a club project, rather than one that falls on a few.

Also, there are things we need for the project - a hand boat winch (500 LBS), a thrust bearing (2" ID, flanged, 2 hole), 3 come-alongs, a rotor (Ham IV or equivalent), rotor cable (200') a ground rod, winch cable (220', soft 3/16"), coax, a mast, a brake light and turn signal kit - and a nice, lightweight, easy to put up and take down mono or multi band beam antenna. DONATIONS GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED!

If you can donate some material, talent or sweat to the project, please call KD4QFD - work 986-7819, or home at 972-1185.

Your efforts will result in a smile on your face when we "roll in" to field day! ♦



GARS Repeater News

by Howie Gould, W4HYV

With the help of members, we are making progress in planning a communications system expansion which will begin with the battery back up system for the main repeater. The club has an Astron power supply that is in need of repair that we will restore and use as a charger for the system. The batteries will be moved around so we can maintain them at ease.

This is not a small job as the batteries are large 200 amp hour 2.05 volt acid cells that are connected in series parallel to make up the 12 volt supply needed to run the repeater on battery voltage when the AC mains fail. They are huge and heavy and have to be handled with care especially when moving them. We may need a small crew to do this at some point in time so keep your ears open.

We have had little response on the upgrade format supplied by Bob, KA4EMV previously. Other members, knowledgeable in this field, are supplying us additional information that may be more cost effective to the club to mull over. This is good for the club as it is generating activity and interest. We are looking over the existing equipment we have, such as 440 exciters, link controllers, 2 meter receivers, power supplies, etc. that make up a repeater link including antennas.

The old equipment leaves a lot to be desired and we don't have much to work with. It seems that the receivers we have are of poor quality and we must pursue other good quality receivers for the 2 meter links and 440 receivers for main site. We can probably use the 440 exciters and link controllers.

I should have final word from Jim, WB4HCV on the Snellville addition which would involve a 150 foot tower, security building, and possible existing hardline etc.. I plan to sit down with Jim after the holidays when we plan to discuss agreements with the county to maintain this equipment. This could turn out to be an extra plus for GARS in that we may end up with more potent coverage from there than Lawrenceville, but it is all speculation at this time.

The other sites available are now starting to take on shape and form. I have a contact person who is a club member

who I hope will be able to steer us onto these various sites once we get rolling with our first link. We are treading slowly as there is a lot to do in between moves but it all should take place in due time.

We have used up a large portion of finance for the new repeater and other financial responsibilities have left us with little to spend on upgrading. The next renewal for membership comes in April of 95 which would allow us another big expenditure for repeater equipment. In the meantime, we can purchase small amounts of equipment that are needed from existing funds.

We are a growing club compared to a year ago, and it will take a lot of financing to reach all the goals the club has set.

Other clubs in the metro area have had a good jump on us in membership and financing available to them in building up their networks such as Alford and ARC, but this is not to say that we will not reach that point in time. We have the talent right here to build up this system, and we have the support of many members in reaching that goal so don't get disheartened.

440 Repeater A Reality

Well we talked about it at one of our meetings at Ryan's back a bit, and we heard it from the mouth of Edwin, KC4VLJ, and now finally we are in the progress of putting on a 440 Repeater at the Snellville site that will operate on 444.525 with a PL of 156.7. The power will be 10 watts and the only cost to the club will be the juice to run it and some free tower space for Edwin.

We hope that this will be the beginning of a good relationship with Edwin and that this will be his start into being an active member of the club in many more ways than the membership at large can conceive. Edwin is an excellent climber, installs hard line, towers, antennas and all the maintenance that goes with it all for a living so indeed he will be a plus for the club in our future plans to expand on our own existing communications system.

Edwin will probably want to coordinate his repeater with SERA, so I am calling upon the help of the club from those individuals who have had the experience in filing repeater coordinates in the past to give Edwin a helping hand doing this.

He will be totally responsible to the FCC as the control operator for any infractions and this will be his baby. All expenses except for the juice to run it will be his responsibility. GARS will receive in return an open repeater to use around the clock for any GARS events and for the membership to use at any time. The PL is needed because of the nature of the beast at Snellville being full of pagers etc. ♦

ARES News

by Pat Runkle, KC4DOO

This has been a very busy month for ARES members. On November 14th the last of the series of classes was completed. Chuck (AD4JU) Calmbacher's class on hazardous materials was well received and very interesting for those in attendance. Little did anyone know that all of our training and net practice would be put into use the following evening.

On November 15th, an flammable spill had occurred in a trailer park in Lawrenceville and the source of the spill couldn't be located. Due to the involvement of the spill into the sewer system, the fire department requested evacuation of the 400 residents to Central Gwinnett High School.

ARES was called out to handle communications for the Red Cross at the request of

Tom Crowell, KE4SLP, newly licensed ham and DAT Captain. Establishing net control as Ike, KE4GYM and alternate net control was Howie, W4NVF. Those responding along with EC Pat, KC4DOO were K4KAZ, KD4VHG, KE4JKM, KE4KPM, WA5PSH, N2EST, KD4PIQ, KA9UIE, K2HJ, KR4XY, KE4CWI, KS4GS, KE4QFW, W4NZJ, W4IXN,

KC4FCM, KE4KYP, KE4NJX, KE4IKG, WB4KRN, N8LM, KE4GGP, AND K4LD4.

We were very fortunate that all ran smoothly and at no time was there a loss of phone service in the area. We were needed for communications between Red Cross personnel though only two messages were sent out from the command center. Even if the problem wasn't as serious as it could have become, I want to thank all who responded and were willing to standby in the event you would be needed. Your willingness to aid your community is greatly appreciated.

Red Cross is now fully aware of ARES capabilities and the professional quality operators that are available for emergencies. ARES members can expect to be put to greater use in the future for handling traffic during an emergency.

Net practice, message handling and classes are important to ARES members. Future classes to be announced later, but the need for practice as net control operators is now. Contact Ike, KE4GYM and select a night or two for you to be a net control operator. If you need help in this area, Ike or myself will be glad to assist as needed.

I wish to thank all who have checked in on the nets and attended the classes the past three months.

This is the beginning of the holiday season, and when our minds and thoughts turn to other happy things. But, please remember, being safe in driving and at home will ensure a happy holiday to you and your family. ♦

DOS and Windows Tip by AD4OD

You can create psuedo-drives with letters of your choice to gain easier access to frequently used or deeply embedded directories, saving lots of time.

For example, say you name your C:\UPLOAD directory as psuedo-drive U: with the command:

SUBST U: C:\upload

in your AUTOEXEC.BAT file. You can now send uploads to drive U: and not have to type the directory name every time! For quick access to my GARS News file area, I placed the command:

SUBST N: C:\amipro\docs\pers\GARS\news in my AUTOEXEC.BAT file. This created an apparent new drive (N:) with the root directory \NEWS. I can still access the directory from the actual drive it is in, in this case drive C:.

You can have several psuedo-drives if you like, and you can name them as any unassigned drive letter. In Windows, you automatically get a new drive icon for each psuedo-drive you create, everywhere you would normally get a drive icon.

This is a real time saver, give it a try. ♦

6-95

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Amateur Callsign: _____ Class: _____ Expires: ____/____/____ Date of Birth: ____/____/____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ - _____ Work-Phone: _____ - _____ Fax-Phone: _____ - _____

Type of membership: ☐ Individual ☐ Family ARRL Member? Y/N _____ Life? Y/N _____

Additional members for Family Memberships:
NAME: _____

CALLSIGN: _____

CLASS (circle 1)

BIRTH DATE ARRL Y/N LIFE? Y/N

E A G T + T N ____/____/____ Y/N Y/N

E A G T + T N ____/____/____ Y/N Y/N

E A G T + T N ____/____/____ Y/N Y/N

Check Interests:

☐ -Class instruction ☐ -Field Day operation ☐ -Repeater maintenance ☐ -GARS club booth staffing ☐ -Community events

☐ -Emergency ☐ -Administrative ☐ -Fund raisers

☐ Other _____

Dues: April 1 to Sept 30

\$25.00 for Individual Memberships

\$35.00 for Family Memberships

From Oct. 1 to Dec. 31:

\$12.50 for Individual Membership

\$17.50 for Family Memberships

From Jan 1 to March 31

\$6.25 for Individual Membership

\$8.75 for Family Memberships



Mail your completed application with check made out to GARS to: Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society, PO Box 88 Lilburn, Ga 30226

GARS News publishes the Atlanta Metro Area VE/VEC Examination Schedules as a service to its members and assumes no responsibility for errors or schedule changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and/or certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions.

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1st Sunday - Lawrenceville W5YI-VEC - Jackson EMC
461 Swanson Rd - Lawrenceville - 2:00PM
Duane Reynolds, WB2YAD - 962-9582

1st Monday - Roswell ARRL-VEC 7:30PM
St Ann Catholic Church - 4905 Roswell Rd - Marietta
Delaine McCarthy, KM4FV - 993-9758

1st Saturday - Clayton Co. Emergency Mgmt Bldg
7496 N. McDonough St. - Jonesboro - 9:00AM
George White, KN4NG 361-6850

2nd Sundays - First Presbyterian Church
183 West Main Street, Cartersville 3:00PM
Mark Swicord, KD4EYF - 975-1309

2nd Tuesday - Walton EMC 7:00PM
3645 - Lenora Church Rd, Snellville
Wayne Taylor, WD4CCA 498-7759

2nd Saturday - Stn Mtn CA-VEC 8:30AM
Stone Mountain Methodist Church, 5312 W. Mountain Street
Hal Martin, KI4RD - 978-9160

3rd Saturdays - Marietta First United Methodist Church
56 Whitlock Ave, Room 319 - 9:00AM
Larry Huff, WA4CQZ - 955-3171

4th Sunday N Atlanta ARRL-VEC - Episcopal Church of the Atonement
2:30PM Highpoint Rd, Atlanta
John King, AB4GK - 381-5291

4th Friday GARS W5YI-VEC - 7:00PM - St John Neumann Church
801 Tom Smith Rd, off Five Forks Tricuum Rd, Lilburn
Howie Gould, W4NVF 921-8362 Headphones!

HAMFEST CALENDAR

Jan	7 ... Hamfest, Morristown, TN
Jan	7-8 .. Hamfest, Ft. Meyers, FL
Jan	14 .. Hamfest, Greenwood, SC
Jan	14-15 Hamfest, Sarasota, FL
Jan	21 .. Hamfest, Crystal River, FL
Jan	28 .. Hamfest, Gallatin, TN
Jan	29 .. Hamfest, Stuart, FI

?=Date not confirmed. Several entries taken from SERA Journal.
Georgia locations are bold, Nearby locations are bold and underlined

**NOVEMBER 17th
GARS MEETING AT
WILLIAMS SEAFOOD
on Buford Hwy.**



P.O. Box 88
Lilburn, Ga 30226



GARS Meeting is at the WILLIAMS SEAFOOD on Buford Highway on the 3rd Thursday, December 15th. Join us for fun and fellowship at 6:00PM. You don't have to eat, if not hungry just come right to the meeting room.